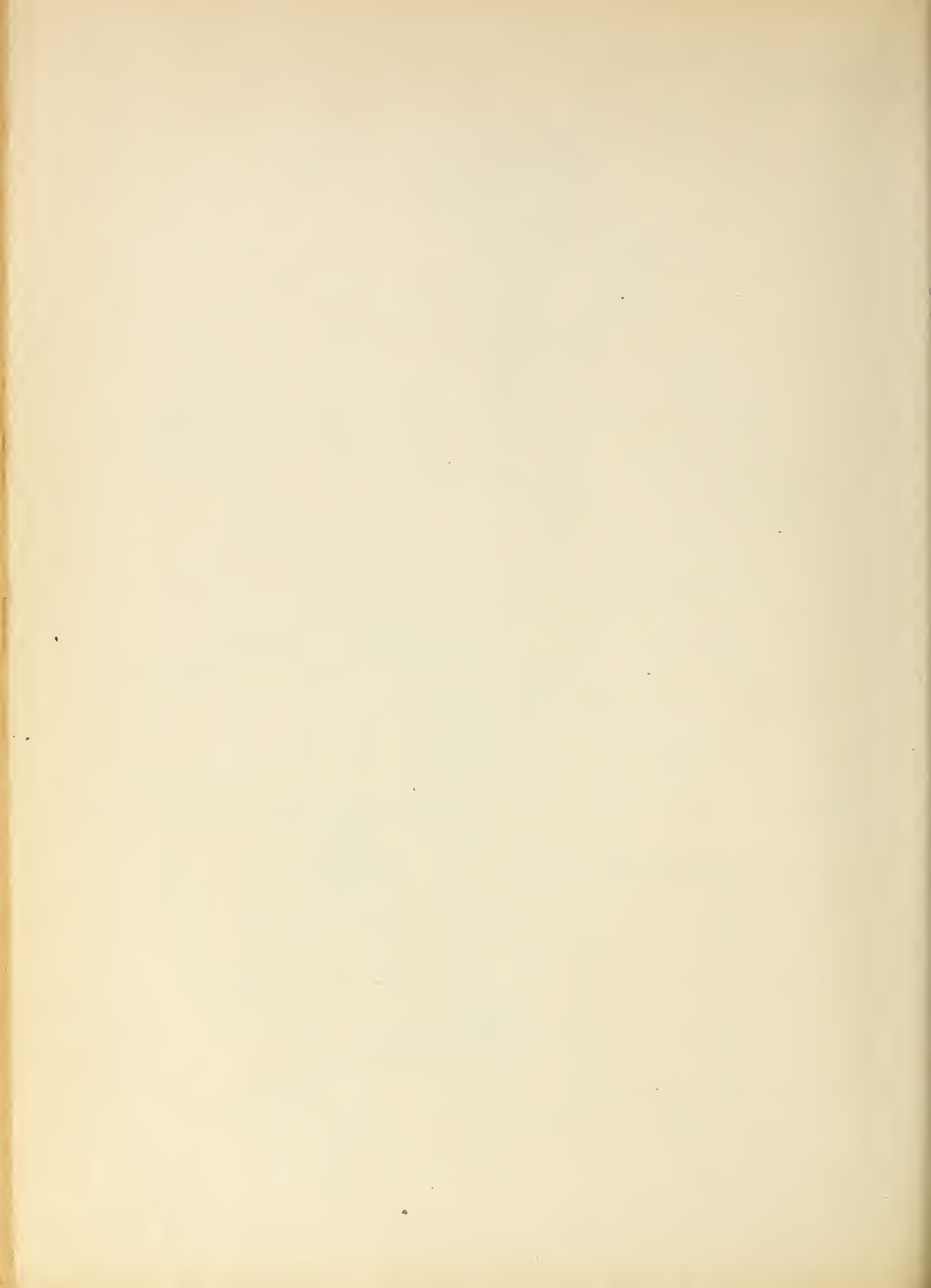


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STATUS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN CORN BORER IN
KANSAS AND OKLAHOMA, FALL 1948

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During the fall of 1948 a survey similar to that made in 1947 (Insect Pest Survey, Special Supplement 1948, No. 1, February 1948) was conducted in cooperation with the Agricultural Experiment Stations of Kansas and Oklahoma to determine the northern and eastern limits of distribution of the southwestern corn borer (Diatraea grandiosella Dyar) in Kansas and Oklahoma, and the intensity of infestation in portions of the older infested areas of those States. In each county surveyed 100 stalks in each of one to six fields were examined. In those counties along the lightly infested eastern and northern borders of infestation 100 stalks in each field were examined, and if no infestation was found, then a circuit roughly 300 feet wide was made through the field in search of lodged stalks. Any lodged stalks thus seen were examined for girdling by the borer.

The northern limit of infestation in Kansas and the eastern limit in both Kansas and Oklahoma were found to be practically the same as in 1947. In some of the counties along the eastern border of infestation, an increase in intensity was observed. The limits of northward and eastward occurrence and the average percentage of stalks infested in the fields examined, as shown by the 1948 survey, are indicated in figure 1.

Of the areas surveyed the most heavily infested were the sandy soil sections of Barton, Stafford, Rice, Reno, Edwards, Pratt, Barber and Kingman Counties in south-central Kansas. Light to heavy infestations were observed in central Oklahoma, the heaviest being in Noble County.

